

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 OES-06 NRC-05
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9838

INFO AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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LONDON FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH ENRG PARM EFIN BR GW

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEBATE

1. SUMMARY. BRAZILIAN PRESS (JANUARY 27) REPORTED FRG FONMIN SPOKESMAN BOELLING'S STATEMENT THAT THE SUBJECTS OF NONPROLIFERATION AND THE BRAZILIAN-GERMAN AGREEMENT WILL BE THE SUBJECTS OF HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS AND CONVERSATIONS IN THE COMING WEEKS. UNNAMED PRESS SOURCES SAID THE GOB WOULD NOT REFUSE AN INVITATION TO A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING. O ESTADO DO SAO PAULO REPORTED THAT WORLD BANK SPECIALISTS SAID THE US WOULD GIVE STRONG SUPPORT TO IFI LENDING TO BRAZIL IF THE BRAZIL-GERMAN AGREEMENT WERE ALTERED. ACTION REQUESTED: PRESS GUIDANCE ON WORLD BANK ANGLE. END SUMMARY.

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2. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO IN ITS JANUARY 27 EDITION HAS REPORTED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PRESS SPOKESMAN DENIED CATEGORICALLY THAT BRAZIL HAD BEEN CONSULTED ABOUT A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE BRAZILIAN-GERMAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT. HE REFLUTED OTHER UNNAMED "DIPLOMATIC" SOURCES WHO HAD CLAIMED THE GOB HAD BEEN CONSULTED. UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES ASSERTED BRAZIL WOULD ATTEND SUCH A MEETING, IF ASKED. FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA WOULD LEAD

THE DELEGATION; NUCLEBRAS PRESIDENT NOGUEIRA BATISTA AND CNEN PRESIDENT CARVALHO WOULD BE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION.

3. "A HIGHLY PLACED SOURCE IN THE GOB," ACCORDING TO O ESTADO, SAID THAT ALL MINISTRIES OF STATE WERE ORDERED NO TO COMMENT TO THE PRESS AND THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE FRG WILL NOT BREAK THE AGREEMENT. THE SOURCE REPORT-EDLY SAID THE GOB'S CAUTIOUS POSITION DOES NOT CLOSE THE DOORS TO ANY FULL UNDERSTANDING. NEVERTHELESS, ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, BRAZIL WILL NOT SIGN THE NPT OR ALTER FUNDAMENTALLY THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ANY DISCUSSIONS.

4. UNIDENTIFIED DIPLOMATIC (READ FOREIGN MINISTRY) SOURCES CITED BY O ESTADO "DID NOT DENY THAT BRAZIL WOULD APPEAR AT THE MEETING TO REDISCUSS NON-ESSENTIAL POINTS OF THE AGREEMENT, SUCH AS IAEA SAFEGUARDS." ALSO, ACCORDING TO THE SOURCES, BRAZIL COULD ACCEPT GREATER EMPHASIS ON ARTICLE 2 OF THE AGREEMENT (IN WHICH, ACCORD-ING TO THE PORTUGUESE TRANSLATION, "THE CONTRACTING PARTIES DECLARE THEMSELVES TO BE IN FAVOR OF THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR ARMS." ADHERING TO THE NPT, THESE SOURCES REPORTEDLY SAID WOULD LEAVE BRAZIL POTENTIALLY IN AN "INFERIOR" POSITION, AND WHEN ARGENTIAN POSSESSES THE BOMB, WOULD GIVE ARGENTINA AN "EVIDENT POLITICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ADVANTAGE IN INTERNATIONAL CONVERSATIONS." OTHER DIPLOMATIC COURCES CITED BY O ESTADO, HOWEVER, THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GET AWAY WITHOUT MAKING SOME CONCESSIONS, "SUCH AS THE INCLUSION OF THE AMERICAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY IN SOME PROJECTS." ANOTHER CONCESSION COULD BE FULL SCOPE SAFEGUARDS, THE SOURCES REPORTEDLY ADDED.

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5. "SPECIALISTS OF THE WORLD BANK," ACCORDING TO O ESTADO, SAID THAT IF THE BRAZILIAN-GERMAN AGREEMENT WERE MODIFIED, BRAZIL COULD OBTAIN AS COMPENSATION STRONG US SUPPORT IN IFI'S. THE SPECIALISTS REPORTEDLY ADVISED THAT BRAZIL COULD USE THIS SUPPORT SINCE IT "DOES NOT HAVE CONDITIONS" TO CONSTRUCT ITAIPU HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS AND TO EXECUTE OTHER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS. THE "ADEQUATE COMPENSATION" BRAZIL WOULD RECEIVE COULD CONSTITUTE A TYPE OF "'MARSHALL PLAN' FOR ONE COUNTRY," THE SOURCES REPORTEDLY SAID.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. WE EXPECT THE WORLD BANK REFERENCE WILL PROVOKE CONSIDERABLE PRESS SPECULATIONS HERE ABOUT TRADE-OFFS INVOLVED IN ANY DECISIONS TO ALTER THE BRAZILIAN-GERMAN AGREEMENT. TO HELP LIMIT SPECULATION, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE PRESS GUIDANCE ON THE QUESTION OF ANY POSSIBLE WORLD BAN RELATION-SHIP TO THE NUCLEAR QUESTION.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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